

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 00498 221003Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 H-01 INR-07 NSC-05 SSO-00  
INRE-00 NSCE-00 /043 W

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O 220930Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6179

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0498

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT EXPRESSES CONCERN ABOUT US/TURKISH RELATIONS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TU, US

REF: ANKARA 0459

1. AT PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION EVENING JANUARY IWQN FORMIN CAGLAYANGIL SPOKE TO ME CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST TO THE CONGRESS TO HOLD UP ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE US-TURK DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA). HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF MY PREVIOUS DAY'S CONVERSATION ON THIS SUBJECT WITH MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG (EMBTel 0459), BUT HE MADE POINT THAT HE STILL " DID NOT LIKE THAT WASHINGTON STATEMENT".

2. PRESIDENT KOROTURK RAISED HIS CONCERNS OVER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S STANCE MORE VIGOROUSLY AND A TGREATER LENGTH. I RESPONDED BY MAKING ESSENTIALLY THE SAME POINTS I HAD MADE WITH ELEKDAG THE PREVIOUS DAY. THE PRESIDENT SEEMED SOMEWHAT REASSURED. HE WENT ON, HOWEVER, TO MAKE THE FURTHER POINT THAT 1977 WAS GOING TO BE A CRITICAL YEAR IN US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIPS AND THAT ANY PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING OUR PROBLEMS SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH THE GREATEST OF CARE. IN  
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FUTURE, HE SUGGESTED WHEN THIS TYPE OF SITUATION AROSE "OUR TWO STAFFS" SHOULD GET TOGETHER TO HANDLE IT PUBLICLY IN A WAY THAT WOULD DO AS LITTLE DAMAGE AS POSSIBLE.

3. COMMENT: PROVIDED THE NEW ADMINISTRATION CAN GET INTO AN EARLY DIALOGUE WITH THE GOT WHICH WILL UNDER-

SCORE ITS INTEREST IN RESTORING OUR SECURITY PARTNERSHIP, I BELIEVE OUR CURRENT FLAP WILL NOT RPT NOT BE OF LONG-TERM SIGNIFICANCE. THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED TO US IN THE PAST FEW DAYS ARE GENUINE--BUT AT THE SAME TIME TACTICAL--AND CAN BEST BE EXPLAINED IN THIS WAY. THE PRO-U.S. ELEMENTS HERE ARE CONCERNED THAT THIS INITIAL DEVELOPMNET IN TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION MAY PRESAGE A LESS TIMELY EFFORT THAN THEY HAD HOPED FOR--AND HAVE BEEN COUNTING ON--BY THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TO STRAIGHTEN OUT OUR RELATIONSHIP. IT HAS ALSO REVIVED LATENT WORRIES HERE THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WILL HAVE A PRO-GREEK TILT, WORRIES THAT GREW DURING THE U.S. ELECTION PERIOD BUT HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT ALLAYED BY SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE DESIGNATE.

4. BUT THE GOT COMMENTS TO US IN THE PAST TWO DAYS HAVE HAD A TACTICAL PURPOSE AS WELL. THE OFFICIALS MAKING THEM KNOW THAT ANY NEW ADMINISTRATION MUST BE GIVEN TIME TO SORT OUT THE PROBLEMS FACING IT AND THESE SAME GOT OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE THAT RATIONAL TURKISH CONCLUSIONS CANNOT BE REACHED BEFORE THAT PROCESS HAS ADVANCED FURTHER THAN IT HAS TO DATE. THEY ARE, THEREFORE, USING THIS EPISODE AT A VERY EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERLINE FOR THE NEW ADMINISTRATION THEIR SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE PRESENT STATE OF US/TURKISH RELATIONS AND THEIR CONVICTION OF THE NEED FOR REMEDIAL STEPS ON AN URGENT BASIS.

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5. THE ABOVE REPORTED CONVERSATIONS TOOK PLACE, AND THIS COMMENT WAS DRAFTED, PRIOR TO THE SECRETARY'S JAN 21 MEETING WITH AMB ESENBEL AND PRIOR TO OUR SEEING THE LATTER'S HELPFUL STATEMENT IN THE SATURDAY-MORNING USIS WIRELESS FILE.  
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## Message Attributes

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